Vol. VII. Numb. 9

THE OBSERVATOR.

On the Addreſſes of the Lords and Commons of the 12th Inſtant; and her Majeſty's Anſwer. On the Scheme of the Faction to bring in the Pretender, laid down in the Libel, call'd, The Exorbitant Grants of *William* the III. *printed in* 1703. *On the Faſt appointed by the Church of* Scotland *againſt the Pretender.*

From Saturday, March 13. to Wednesday, March 17. 1708.

Obſ. WHAT are they doing at *London*, about the Pretender, *Roger?*

Country-m. Both Houſes of Parliament have made new and vigorous Addreſſes to her Majeſty on that Subject, Maſter, which were publiſh'd laſt *Saturday* in the Evening.

Obſ. Pray give me the chief Contents of them, *Roger?*

Country-m. Our noble Patriots, the Lords, ſay in their Addreſs, Maſter, "It is with Concern, and with "juſt Indignation, we hear of a Purpoſe to in-"vade your Dominions with ſo inconſiderable a "Force. This, as it muſt depend upon ſome *In-"vitation and Encouragement from hence*, ſo it is an "undeniable Proof, that neither your Majeſty's "Piety, nor the Mildneſs of your Government, nor "the Succeſs of your Reign, can reconcile ſome "Men to the preſent Eſtabliſhment, the only ſure "Foundation of our Liberties, and the Proteſtant "Religion. We hope your Majeſty will always "have a juſt Deteſtation of thoſe Perſons, who, "at a Time when this Helliſh Attempt was a-foot, "and ſo near breaking out, *were uſing Endeavours "to miſrepreſent the Actions of your beſt Subjects, and "create Jealouſies in your Majeſty of thoſe, who had al-"ways ſerv'd you moſt eminently and faithfully: And "we beſeech your Majeſty not to give ſo juſt a Cauſe of "Uneaſineſs to your People, as to ſuffer any ſuch here-"after, to have Acceſs to your Royal Perſon.*

Obſ. You know, *Roger*, we ſaid at firſt, that except the *French* King had a Mind to be rid of the Pretender, he would never ſend him hither with ſo ſmall a Force, except he had Aſſurance of Encoucouragement and Aſſiſtance from hence.

Country-m. I remember it very well, Maſter; and as the Lords are of that Opinion, ſo are the Commons; for in their Addreſs, they ſay, "The ſmall "Number of Ships and Troops with which this "Project is proſecuted, notwithſtanding the great "Naval Force your Majeſty has fitted out with ſo "much Expedition, as it ought to be regarded "with Contempt on the one Side, ſo on the other "it gives us juſt Cauſe to believe, that their chief "Dependance is upon ſome of your Subjects, whoſe "reſtleſs Paſſions, and arbitrary Principles, have, "for ſome Years, engag'd them in forming De-"ſigns to undermine and deſtroy the moſt happy "Eſtabliſhment, that the Government of this I-"ſland was ever founded upon.

Obſ. The Deſign to invade us with ſo ſmall a Force, might juſtly be look'd on with Contempt, *Roger*, were it not for the Numbers of ſecret and open Enemies of the Conſtitution, which are among us at Home; therefore their Lordſhips act according to the known Wiſdom of their Houſe, in begging her Majeſty *to purſue the moſt vigorous Methods for the total Diſappointment of this Deſign*: For we have an Inſtance in our Hiſtory, which ſhews how dear *Richard* the III. paid for his Contempt of the ſmall Power which the Earl of *Richmond*, afterwards *Henry* the VII. brought over with him from *France*, being no more than 2000 Men, with whom he landed at *Milford Haven* in *Wales*, having left Hoſtages with the *French* King, for the Men and Money he lent him. When King *Richard* heard of the Earl's Landing with ſo ſmall a Number, he contemn'd him as a fooliſh Man; and was poſitive, that he ſhould either be taken alive, or come to a ſhameful End; but the King being betray'd by thoſe that he truſted, he loſt his Crown, and his Life too.

Country-m. Bleſſed be God, Maſter, her Majeſty has the Hearts of her Subjects, which King *Richard* had not; therefore we have juſt Reaſon to ſay with the Lords in their Addreſs, "*We doubt* not but her "Majeſty will ſoon ſee ſuch a Spirit, and ſo duti-"ful a Zeal among her Subjects, as will entirely "daſh the Hopes of the Pretender.

Obſ. I doubt nothing of it, *Roger*: However, her Majeſty's Wiſdom is to be applauded, that ſhe takes vigorous Methods to diſappoint this horrid Deſign; which, I am afraid, has been a long while upon the Anvil, and has more Friends than it ſhould have; otherwiſe the nonjurant Conventicles, both in *England* and *Scotland*, where People are debauch'd from their Loyalty, had never been ſuffer'd to go unpuniſh'd: Nor had Libels which are publiſh'd every Week againſt the Principles of the Revolution, ſuch as the *Rehearſal*, *&c.* paſs'd without Proſecution.

Country-m. Aye, Maſter, my old Friend, Mr. *Tutchin*, frequently complain'd of that; yet ſome, who were then in Power, were more intent on proſecuting him, and others, who were known Friends to the Government, than on puniſhing ſuch Libellers.

Obſ. I remember it very well, *Roger*; and particularly, that he often complain'd of a villanous Pamphlet, entitl'd, *The exorbitant Grants of* William *the III.* wherein the Faction laid down their Scheme for bringing in the Pretender near five Years ago; and yet, if your old Maſter's Information was good, the Author, inſtead of being puniſh'd, was rewarded.

Country-m. Pray, Maſter, what was their Scheme? For tho' I heard Mr. *Tutchin* frequently complain of that Libel, I have forgot their Scheme.

Obſ. I'll give it you in their own Words, *Roger*:

Page 16. they tell us, the Settlement of the Succeſſion made by *Henry* the IV. in the firſt Year of his Reign, was declar'd null the 39th of *Hen.* 6. as followeth: "Upon the 16th of *October*, "that Year the Council of the Duke of *York* exhi-"bited to the Lords in full Parliament, the Claim "of *Richard*, Duke of *York*, to the Crown of *Eng-"land*, and Lordſhip of *Ireland* - - -. And Page 17. they add, after the Lords had read the Claim, which aſſerted him to be the undoubted Heir of the Crown, they adviſ'd this Order, "That King *Hen-"ry* the VI. ſhould enjoy the Crown during his "natural Life, and that the Duke of *York* (whom "they ſaid) was the lawful Heir of the Crown, to "ſucceed after him; and appointed the Chancellor "ſhould declare this to the King, who gave full "Aſſent in Parliament, to exclude all the Iſſue of "his own Body, to make Way, and give Right "to the lawful Heir of the Crown; and the Ac-"cord betwixt King *Henry*, and the Duke of *York*, "was made in Manner following:

"1. That the King, during his natural Life, ſhould

" ſhould enjoy the Crown, and the Preheminence " of the Realm of *England*. 2. That the ſaid Duke, " the Earls of *Marſh* and *Rutland*, the Duke's Sons, " ſhould be ſworn by no Means to ſhorten the Days, " or impair the Preheminence of the ſaid King, " during his natural Life. 3. That the ſaid Duke " be henceforth reputed and inſiſted upon to be the " very Heir apparent of the Crown, and to enjoy " the ſame immediately after the Death or Reſig- " nation of the ſaid King; to which all Parties a- " greed. And laſtly, it was declar'd, that *Henry* " of *Derby*, was King *de Facto*; and that he had no " Right in him to convey, or to entail the Crown " or Kingdom; and that he could not lawfully nor " rightfully do it; and therefore his Act of Entail " was made void in that Parliament.

Country-m. That's a Scheme indeed, Maſter; then I perceive, the knaviſh Diſtinction of *de Jure* and *de Facto*, is not of Yeſterday; and that we have Reaſon, narrowly to obſerve the Proceedings of our *de Facto* Men. But pray go on, Sir.

Obſ. The Faction adds, *Roger*, " By the rehears'd " Parliamentary Proceedings, it appears, that this " is a hereditary paternal Monarchy, govern'd by " one ſupream, independent, and indepoſeable " Head.

Country-m. That's tantivy Doctrine indeed, Maſter.

Obſ. Yes, yes, *Roger*, the Authors, Page 18 and 19, ridicule the original Contract betwixt the King and People, and a limited Monarchy; and boldly aſſert, that the Crown had all our Lands in Demeaſne; gave and reſerv'd what they thought fit; that our Privileges, Liberties, and Properties, all flow from the Kings and Queens, and leave the People no Share in the Sovereignty, or Regal Authority; and that *Magna Charta* proceeded from their Grace and Favour.

Country-m. O brave! Then, according to this Doctrine, all our Liberties and Properties are in the Power of the Prince, and our Parliaments have no Share in the Legiſlature.

Obſ. You obſerve very well, *Roger*; yet this has been the currant Doctrine of all the *Laudean* Faction, and their Succeſſors the Tantivies. But I go on. The Faction being afraid we ſhould not underſtand them, reſolv'd to be more plain; and ſay, Page 27, " Perhaps ſome violent Whig might put " the following Queſtion after this Manner: How " can you deny a Right in King *William*, and allow " a Right in Queen *Anne*? By what you have ſaid " of the Line of Succeſſion before, the Son is prefe- " rable to the Daughter; and by what Right then " can the Daughter rule, and not the Son?

" To which is anſwer'd, That by the Policy of " *William*, to ſcreen himſelf, he got the Son ex- " cluded, attainted, and abjur'd, whether right- " fully or wrongfully, is not the Queſtion; but if " rightfully, the Daughter ſtands where ſhe ſhould, " in her own Right, deſcended to her from her Fa- " ther. And on the other Hand, if the Son was " wrongfully excluded, the Queen had no Share " in the Excluſion; but it was one of the Legacies " of *William* the III. to his Kinſman, having reſolv'd " a little before his *Exit*, to be as kind to the Son, " as he was to the Father and Family. The State " of Affairs now well conſider'd, future Ages will " not only applaud the Queen, but will render it " the moſt glorious Action of her Life, to take the " Government upon her, for the three following " Reaſons, 1. To keep the Monarchy entire. 2. To " keep the Crown, the Royal Authority, and the " Power in her own Blood and Family. And 3. " to keep Strangers out of the *Engliſh* Throne.

Country-m. That's plain Dealing indeed, Maſter: Pray God we have not too many Favourers of this Scheme among us; but I hope their Deſigns will be diſappointed, ſince our noble Patriots, the Lords, *have humbly offer'd it to her Majeſty as their Opinion, that ſhe ſhould principally depend upon, and encourage thoſe, who have been ever ſince the Revolution moſt ſtea- dy and firm to the Intereſt of the late King, and of her Majeſty, during her happy Reign.*

Obſ. I hope ſo too, *Roger*, ſince her Majeſty has graciouſly declar'd, " That ſhe will always place " her chief Dependance upon thoſe, who have gi- " ven ſuch repeated Proofs of the greateſt Warmth " and Concern for the Support of the Revolution, " Security of her Perſon, and of the Proteſtant Suc- " ceſſion.

Country-m. Had all thoſe who were employ'd by her Majeſty, been ſuch, Maſter, when that treaſonable Book, call'd, *The exorbitant Grants*, came out, *dedicated to the Queen, and offer'd to the Conſideration of the Commons of* England *aſſembl'd in Parliament*, the Authors could never have paſs'd without due Puniſhment, nor the Libel eſcap'd being burnt by the common Hang-man. But enough of this at preſent, Maſter; I have good News for you. The Church of *Scotland*, have, by their Repreſentatives, the Commiſſion or Committee of the General Aſſembly, declar'd againſt the Pretender, and of their own proper Motion, addreſs'd the Government for a Faſt, " To humble themſelves before God, and " pray, that he would diſappoint the Deſigns of " our bloody and cruel Enemy, who hath employ'd " his Power to ruin our holy Religion, to enſlave " *Europe*, and to ſet the Pretender upon the Throne, " to the utter Overthrow of our Religion, and of " all our Intereſts, Sacred and Civil, *&c.*

Obſ. That's good News indeed, *Roger*; and I hope will be as terrible to the Enemy, as the Prayers of the *Scotch* Reformers were to the *French* Popiſh Power, who invaded that Country in the Adminiſtration of the *French* Queen, *Regent*; of whom I have read in the *Scotch* Hiſtory, that ſhe ſaid ſhe was more afraid of the Prayers of *John Knox*, the famous *Scotch* Reformer, than of an Army of 10000 Men. In the mean Time, *Roger*, this ſhews, that in our laſt, we had a juſt Notion of the Reception that the Pretender was like to meet with in *Scotland*. God bleſs the Queen, and continue the Proteſtant Succeſſion, *Roger*. Good Night.

Advertiſements.

The Purifying Extract,

¶ Preſerver of Health and Vigour: And comprehenſive Reſtorer from acute Sickneſs, and painful chronic Diſeaſes in Body or Limbs. By executing radically, the neceſſary Preventive, and chiefeſt curative Operations in all Caſes: The moſt uſeful, eaſy, and commodious Relief, the World hath yet been bleſs'd with. As at large ſet forth in; The Myſtery of curing comprehenſively. By a Phyſician, forty Years converſant in Preparations, Tryals, and Reforms; gradually acquiring ſuch as excel, the Traditional Book-Medicines. At the Moor's-Head, his Houſe in Eagle-ſtreet, by Red-Lyon-Square.

Theſe are to give Notice,

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¶ Compleat Sets of the Obſervator, or ſingle Ones, ever ſince it was begun by Mr. Tutchin, to this Time, are to be had of B. Bragge at the Raven in Pater-Noſter-Row, and H. Meere at the Black-Fryar in Black-Fryars.

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